WOMEN

AUTUMN 1989

THE
EVERARD READ
GALLERY

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Invites you to the opening
of this exhibition
on
Tuesday, 9 May 1989
at 6 pm

Preview: Saturday, 6 May
Closing: Monday, 22 May

6 Jellicoe Avenue, Rosebank, Johannesburg.
Gallery hours: Monday to Saturday 9.00 am to 6.00 pm.

THE SUBJECT OF WOMEN IN FIGURE PAINTING

Of the many different oevres in art, figure painting and its portrayal of women is one of the most absorbing; and thus . . . by workbench or bedstead, in trauma, fury, fright, her soft pale flesh naked, reflected in mirrors and pools . . . the myriad aspects and whims of women are scrutinised, dissected, ennobled and laid bare by painters in each age.

In High Renaissance paintings woman is shown as the Madonna, alighting as an angel upon a stairway to heaven; or as a person of virtue, her purity enslaved forever by the artist's skill. But in this 20th century post-modern era, an artist may deliberately schematise her form, while still endeavouring to capture, like Raphael, a harmonious transition of mood; or abstract it like Leger, the plastic language drawn out of Cubism, an appropriate tool for his machine-age Modern imagery. In South Africa, a gentle dignity was bestowed her by Kottler, by Stern a vigorous truth, and Welz a shimmering grace; how great was their esteem for the eternal female nature. Was their inspiration the Princess Magogo, or Hobhouse, or Schreiner? Did the Goya *Maja* hold them in thrall; or *The Rokeby Venus* by *Velazquez* . . . Titian's languidly sensual *Venus d'Urbino* or the Leonardo *Mona Lisa*? Did Degas's laundresses or Millet's gleaners rivet their gaze . . . or the Symbolist faces of Rossetti's wistful women; the melancholy of a Modigliani nude or the ambiguity of Picasso's *Les Demoiselles*? About this we can only surmise.

Today's archetypal woman has overthrown patriarchal domination and fought for equality before the law, emerging through social conditioning with weapons and secrets; responsive, receptive, intuitive, non-violent. Her instinctual relations are rooted in love; yet she'll scream like a fishwife, her brow afire, those creases of care through ready pain by life worn cavernously deep. No langorous grace has she. Yet she is loved. A creature of beauty, so weak, so strong. You see her munificence at this exhibition.

Samantha James
Johannesburg, April 1989

TADEUSZ JAROSZYNSKI
The Bird Watcher
oil on canvas
152 x 132 cm

GREGORY KERR
Three Post Meridial Women

oil on canvas
130 x 164 cm

JULIA TEALE
Silent, Each Contemplating the Other in Reciprocal Flesh

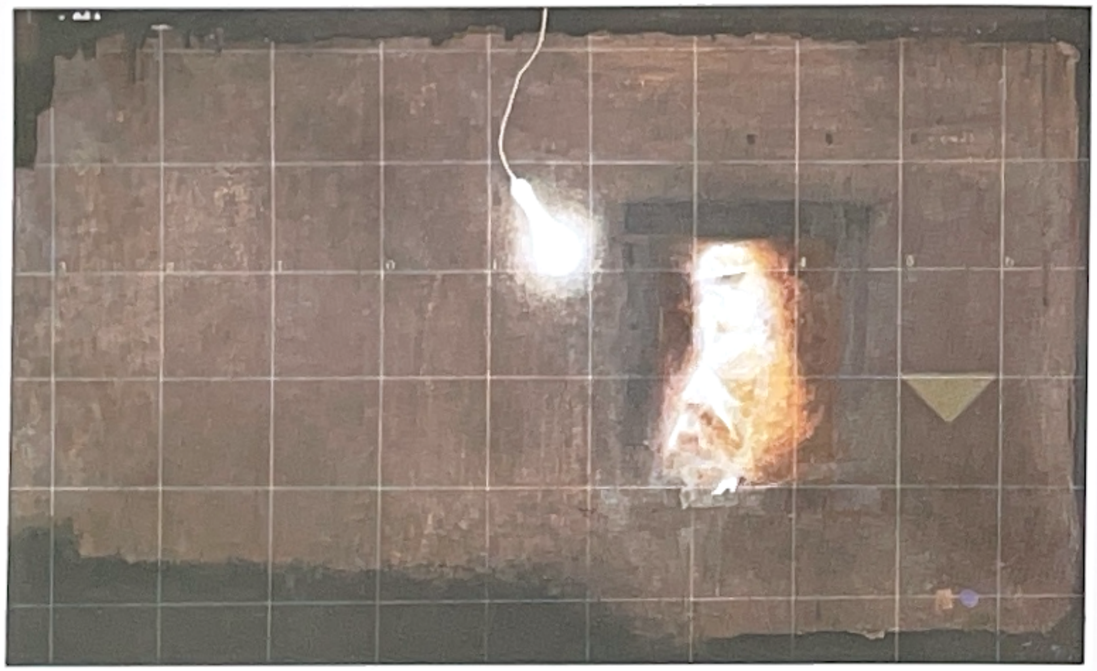
oil on canvas
150 x 280 cm

IZIDRO DUARTE
Study in Contour

gouache
55 x 96 cm

JOHN MEYER
Poplar grove by Welgemoed

acrylic on canvas
86 x 215 cm



HAROLD VOIGT
Victorian Woman

mixed media on canvas
91 x 152 cm

LUCKY SIBIYA
Women

oil on carved panel
104 x 114 cm

NEIL RODGER
Young Girl Reading

oil on canvas
100 x 120 cm

RICHARD SMITH
Reclining Nude

oil on canvas
150 x 130 cm

LIST OF ARTISTS

ARLENE AMALER-RAVIV
RAYMOND ANDREWS
LAURYN ARNOTT
PAUL AUGUSTINUS
BEEZY BAILEY
ANN-MARIE BERRY
CLAUDE BOUSCHARAIN
MATTHEW BRITTAN
RICKY BURNETT
LARAINE CAMPBELL
LEON DE BLIQUY
IZIDRO DUARTE
LIANE DUTILLEUX
NEL ERASMUS
FRANCINE GREENBLATT
EDDIE ISAACSON
KARIN JAROSZYNSKA
TADEUSZ JAROSZYNSKI
CARL JEPPE
CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
GREGORY KERR
NORIA MABASA
ELISE MACDONALD
AVHASHONI MAINGANYE
JUNE MALES
ESTELLE MARAIS
JUDITH MASON ATTWOOD
JENNY MEYER
JOHN MEYER
BILLY MOLOKENG
ANDRÉ NAUDÉ
LINDA NOLUTSHUNGU
SHEILA NOWERS
MICHAEL PETTIT
DOUGLAS PORTWAY
CLIFFORD RABE
MESHEAK RAPHALALANI
NEIL RODGER
HESTER SCHULER
HELEN SEBIDI
ERIS SILKE
RICHARD SMITH
RYNO SWART
JULIA TEALE
MARTIN TOSE
EBEN VAN DER MERWE
WENDY VINCENT
EVETTE WEYERS